

VPI/99-100DIV2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Not yet assigned
Group : Not yet assigned
Applicants : Michael R. Hale, et al.
Appln. No. : N/A Confirmation No.: N/A
Filed : Herewith
For : INHIBITORS OF ASPARTYL PROTEASE

New York, New York
July 2, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to the issuance of the first Office Action in the above-identified application, kindly amend the application as follows:

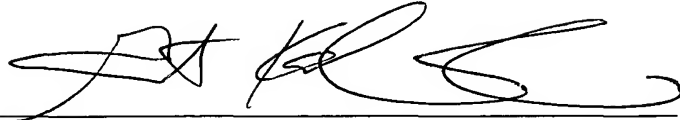
IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph as the first sentence of the specification directly following the title on page 1:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a division of United States application 09/927,271, filed August 9, 2001, which is a division of United States application 09/500,781, filed February 9, 2000, now issued as United States patent 6,319,946, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) from United States provisional application 60/120,047, filed February 12, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JF Haley, Jr.', written over a horizontal line.

James F. Haley, Jr. (Reg. No. 27,794)
Attorney for Applicants

Min Wang (Reg. No. 51,303)

Grant Kalinowski (Reg. No. 48,314)
Agents for Applicants

c/o FISH & NEAVE

Customer No. 1473

1251 Avenue of the Americas

50th Floor

New York, New York 10020-1104

Tel: (212) 596-9000